

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A metallic conductor for a low-tension electrical conductor, the metallic conductor comprising an assembly of flexible wires each having a diameter of less than or equal to 0.61mm; wherein the conductor is arranged in a predetermined polygonal cross-section comprising one curved side and two straight sides, wherein the conductor is surrounded by a layer of an insulating material that holds the wires in the predetermined polygonal cross-section such that, ~~and wherein~~ the conductor is shape-maintaining whereby ~~such that~~ it maintains the predetermined polygonal cross-section unless and until the layer of insulating material is removed.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) A metallic conductor according to Claim 3, wherein the polygonal cross-section is a circular sector.

5-6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) A metallic conductor according to Claim 1, in which the layer of insulating material is thermoplastic and/or thermosetting, such as polyethylene, polyester, fluorinated polymer, polyolefin, polyamide, polyimide, polyurethane, polyvinyl chloride, thermoplastic elastomer, ethylene-propylene, polychloroprene or silicone rubber, as well as

their compounds and derivatives.

8. (Previously presented) A low-tension cable comprising a plurality of conductors according to claim 1, each of the conductors being electrically insulated from one another, and grouped together by a cabling process under a covering or a common binding element.

9-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 8, wherein the predetermined polygonal arrangement is a circle.

12. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 8, wherein the predetermined polygonal arrangement is a rectangle.

13. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 11, wherein the cable comprises conductors of different polygonal cross-sections.

14. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 8, wherein the predetermined polygonal arrangement is surrounded by at least one layer of a protective material.

15. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 14, wherein the layer of protective material is a metallic protective material.

16. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 15, wherein the layer of protective material is a thermoplastic and/or thermosetting polymeric protective material.

17. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 14, wherein the layer of protective material is a textile material applied as a protective belt.

18. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 15, wherein the predetermined polygonal arrangement is surrounded by a combination of layers of protective material.

19. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a metallic conductor comprising the steps of:

providing an assembly of flexible wires each having a diameter of less than or equal to 0.61mm;

deforming, using a mechanical means of deformation, the assembly of flexible wires and arranging the wires to form a metallic conductor having a predetermined polygonal cross-section comprising one curved side and two straight sides,

extruding, using an extrusion means, the metallic conductor obtained in the preceding operation; and

surrounding the extruded metallic conductor in a layer of insulating material that holds the wires in the predetermined polygonal cross-section such that ~~whereby~~ the conductor is shape-maintaining whereby ~~such that~~ it maintains the predetermined polygonal cross-section unless and until the layer of insulating material is removed.

20. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 12, wherein the cable comprises conductors of different polygonal cross-sections.

21. (Previously presented) A cable according to claim 8, wherein the cable is sufficiently flexible to meet classes V and VI of IEC-60228 standard.

22. (Previously presented) A cable according to claim 8, wherein the cable is sufficiently flexible to permit coiling of the cable on a spool.

23. (Previously presented) A flexible electric and/or communication cable consisting of:

a plurality of metallic conductors; each of the conductors comprising a plurality of wires having a diameter of less than or equal to 0.61mm and an insulating layer enveloping the wires; wherein the wires and the insulating layer are constructed and arranged to form a conductor that has predetermined polygonal cross-section having a curved side and that maintains the predetermined polygonal cross-section unless and until the insulating layer is removed; and

a flexible protective sheath covering the plurality of metallic conductors.

24. (Canceled)